UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 2-16-61

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: CAPTAIN ROBERT A. WINSTON,
U. S. NAVAL RESERVE, RETIRED
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Captioned individual, [redacted] personally called at the Bureau on 2-15-61 and was interviewed by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] of the Crime Research Section.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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Winston left several papers and pamphlets, which are attached. This material includes references to Herbert Philbrick and Winston's suspicions of Philbrick as an authentic anticommunist. Winston described himself as a rabid anticommunist and commented several times that he is greatly alarmed over the activities of the Anti-Defamation League.

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

Winston stated that should any further contact with him be desired he may be reached at his home address.

REC- 35 62-104705-33

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

12 FEB 21 1961

Enclosures (8)
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Belmont

CRIME RESEARCH

RH:mbb (4) 50 FEB 27 1961

Memorandum for Record

On. Jan. 13, 1961, I received a telephone call from Major Edgar C. Bundy, General Chairman of the Church League of Illinois, 1407 Hill Ave., Wheaton, Ill. He asked if I could meet him in New York next week. I asked what was up. He said, "I want to talk to you about Philbrick and company." I agreed to meet him in the lobby of the St. Moritz Hotel at 6 p. m. Wednesday, Jan 8th.

I did so. We went to the dining room in the lobby and ordered dinner. He immediately went into the subject he wanted to discuss: "Tell me all you know about Herb Philbrick. When and how did you first meet him?"

I described what Bundy already knew, that I had met Philbrick after writing my book, "The Pentagon Case," which Philbrick had reviewed in his New York Herald Tribune column, and that I had asked Philbrick to become the moderator or spokesman for a projected television program which I had conceived, to be called "World War Three," and that Philbrick had agreed toddo so.

Bundy asked, "Was 'World War Three' your original idea?"

I assured him that it had been, until Philbrick took it over, along with the corporation I had set up to activate it.

"Was CASCA your idea, and who thought up the name?" he asked.

"I did. It was my concept. CASCA stood for 'Counteroffensive Against Subversive Communist Activities,' and was the organization I developed to put the 'World War III' program across,""I said.

"Do you know a man named Justin McCarthy?" he asked.

"Know him?" I repeated. "I hired him—at Philbrick's suggestion and with his approval as Chairman of CASCA's Board of Directors, and I also fired him, as my last official act as President of CASCA, Inc., after Philbrick and McCarth and Merwin K. Hart double-crossed me and forced me out and took over my project." (I then described how this had been engineered. I also described how Philbrick had tried to get me to ask Merwin K. Hart to resign as Vice President of CASCA, Inc., on the grounds that Hart was anti-Semitic, and that

Philbrick's Jewi employer at the Seacoast Bever s Company in New Hampshire had refused to buy stock in CASCA, Inc., because of this—according to Philbrick—and that I had refused to do so, because Hart had been largely responsible for helping Philbrick and me to launch CASCA, and that Hart had disposed of the anti-Semitism charge in a letter to Philbrick, of which I still had the copy which Hart sent me.)

(I then described how Philbrick had welshed on every key agreement he had made with me and with CASCA: his employment contract, his terms of compensation, his assurance that there was no conflict with his other commitments—especially with the ZIV Television Corporation, when he knew all along that his contract with ZIV on his TV program "I Led Three Lives" actually prohibited exactly the kind of activity he had undertaken to carry on for CASCA.)

I described how Philbrick had violated his agreement to submit all TV scripts for corporate approval before production, and how he had overcommitted CASCA to the extent of $6,000.00 by producing the original and only pilot film (which was to cost only $1,600.00) on "The Strange Death of Harry Dexter White," which was amateurish and unsalable.

I described how I had been at a loss to explain Philbrick's motives until I had come across a pamphlet in which he strongly endorsed a booklet called "What We Should Teach About Communism," published by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith, and how the booklet proved to be largely pro-Communist. I then described how I had privately shown this pamphlet to Merwin K. Hart and had suggested that we ask Philbrick to withdraw as the corporation's spokesman, and how Hart, Philbrick and McCarthy had demanded instead that I resign as President of CASCA and turn over 200 of the 250 shares of stock I had received for my pre-incorporation services; and how Hart had threatened to dissolve the corporation within 48 hours and "freeze" me out unless I accepted their terms.

Dundy then stated that during the past few days he had shown Hart this

same pamphlet, but Hart had denied that he had ever seen it or even knew that Philbrick had made such an endorsement of the ADL booklet, and had expressed great shock that Philbrick had done so.

I described to Bundy the exact circumstances under which I had shown the pamphlet to Hart, who had asked me, "May I keep this?" and had placed it in the drawer of his desk in room 7501 of the Empire State Building--the same room in which Bundy had shown Hart the same pamphlet which Hart categorically denied to Bundy that he had ever seen.

Bundy then told me that he was in an embarrassing position because Philbrick had recently written an article about the National Council of Churches, published in Bundy's newsletter "News and Views," which had been widely reprinted and had received national distribution. Subsequently, one of Bundy's subscribers had sent him a copy of the pamphlet (published by the National Education Program of Searcy, Arkansas, reprinting Philbrick's keynote address before the Freedom Forum on April 17, 1958, containing Philbrick's endorsement of the ADL booklet on page 27.)

Bundy said he had immediately written to Philbrick, asking for a statement about this highly questionable endorsement, but that Philbrick had repeatedly stalled until Bundy had demanded, over the telephone, a written explanation which Philbrick had promised to provide but had never submitted. (Bundy was highly incensed to learn that Philbrick had also ignored a similar request by the editor of the American Mercury Magazine for a similar explanation, after a subscriber had queried the editor about Philbrick's endorsement of the ADL booklet. Mercury's editor wrote Philbrick and asked him to comment, but Philbrick never replied to this formal request.)

After dinner, Bundy asked me to come up to his room where he could show me documentary evidence of Philbrick's duplicity. He read to me a letter he had written to Philbrick, requesting an explanation from Philbrick, and then read Philbrick's reply, in which he pointed out five separate mis-statements

of fact.

Bundy then showed me the copy of the Freedom Forum pamphlet which he had shown to Merwin K. Hart (and which Hart denied having previously seen.)

Bundy also told me that Justin McCarthy was suing Philbrick for attempting to take over a television program which McCarthy had developed for 3m (Minnesota Mining and Mfg. Co., manufacturers of Scotch Tape) and that Philbrick had also attempted to "steal" Bob Siegrist's sponsor, the Allen Bradley Company. (Siegrist is a Milwaukee radio comentator.)

Bundy opined that Philbrick was trying to make himself the leading "anti-communist" by putting all the competition out of business. Bundy was particularly bitter about Philbrick's association with Dr. Fred Schwarz, (whom Bundy termed "A terrible phony") on "seminars" patterned after those which Bundy had developed.

During our discussion of Philbrick's possible motives, other than sheer cupidity, I mentioned the fact that a former Communist Party member, Mrs. Helen Wood Birnie, had told me in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that Philbrick had never really left the Communist Party but had testified against the eleven top U. S. Communists only after the F. B. I. had put heavy pressure on Philbrick to do so, and that Philbrick's price was immunity and a chance to make a living by writing the doctored version which eventually emerged in his book, "I Led Three Lives." (Mrs. Birnie told me categorically that "The F. B. I. will have nothing whatever to do with Philbrick.") I asked Bundy if he could verify this.

Bundy told me that he had heard the same version of Philbrick's case from other sources, and that the F. B. I. and the other government agencies which had cooperated with Philbrick deeply regretted having done so, in view of the way Philbrick was now exploiting his contacts with those agencies. The F. B. I. in particular was in a bad position, according to Bundy, since anything which might tend to discredit Philbrick in any way, might open the way for the Communist Party to challenge Philbrick's testimony which had helped to convict the eleven top American Communists.

This, Bundy said, was the explanation of Philbrick's strange immunity and his ability to communicate freely with key people in the F. B. I.aadd the Congressional Investigating Committees.

We agreed that had we had never met anyone else even remotely as evasive and as hard to pin down as Herbert A. Philbrick.

At this point Bundy's phone rang. He said, "My ride is here; I have to go now."

I asked him what action he intended to take with regard to the manner in which his organization had been compromised by Philbrick'S actions.

Bundy replied that there was not much he could do about it, and that he was going to leave the country shortly and would be in Europe for about a year. I asked him to give my best regards to our mutual friend General Walker in Germany.

We went down to the lobby in the same elevator, and he left the hotel at once,while I was getting my coat and hat from the lobby check room.

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